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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE GROUP

COUNTRY Bulgaria

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INFO.

SUBJECT Situation in Central and Southwestern Bulgaria

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SUP-LEMENT

On a trip, which led through Sofia - Tatar Pazardzhik - Plevdiv - Chirpan -Nova Zagora - Sliven - Mohren - Kotel - Yambol - Elhovo - Topolovgrad - Harmanli -Haskovo - Plovdiv - Sofia, the following observations were made:

- 1. No movements of Russian troops were noted. Those Russians seen were normal garrison troops, and were observed in Tatar Pazardzhik, Plovdiv, Stara Zagora, Nove Zagora, Sliven, Kotel, Yambol, and Haskovo. No troops were in evidence between Elhovo and Haskove.
- 2. Russian fuel damps are located in Sliven and Tatar Pasa tahik, the latter being smaller and lightly stocked.
- On the Kotel-Yambol highway, four kilometers out of Gradez, a well concealed military camp was observed capable of accommodating 5,000 men. The camp was located in the woods on both sides of the road. At prepart it is unoccupied, but according to local people, it had been occupied by Eulgarians earlier in
- The border area traversed was quiet with no evidence of proops or partisans, The roads south of Yambol and through the border area were recently resurfaced and graded. While not wide, they were in excellent condition. Good road terminated at Harmanli. From there to Haskeve the road is entirely under construction by labor battalions (Trudovaks).
- Crops in the area, except for the Plovdiv region, suffered greatly from lack of rain. Most cities in area have water only for a brief period during the day.
- 6. Public opinion in the whole area was friendly to Americans and distinctly hostile to the Russians. Some people, formerly Communist, are now talking against the Russians.

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